



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Stephen J. BROWN
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING
DISEASE-INFLUENCING GENES
Appl. No.: 09/496,893
Filing Date: February 2, 2002
Examiner: A. Marschel
Art Unit: 1631

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed November 17, 2004, and the Notice of Appeal, filed April 18, 2005, the period for responding having been extended one (1) month to July 18, 2004. This Preliminary Amendment is filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114. The filing of this Request for Continued Examination should be construed as request to dismiss the appeal and to continue prosecution. (MPEP 706.07(g)).

Claims Amendments and Listing begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: